

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT**

National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme – securing plant material for drought proofing and tree plantation works - MGNREGS Grameena Vanam Nurseries (MGVN) - Orders - Issued.

PANCHAYAT RAJ & RURAL DEVELOPMENT (RD-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No. 326

Dated:14.09.2010

ORDER

The works relating to drought proofing fall in 2nd priority in the list of works permitted as per Schedule I of the MGNREG Act. Plantation of trees is a prime drought proofing activity for number of reasons: trees are important soil binders; source of biomass; preserve the ecological and environmental balance and sequester the atmospheric and soil carbon.

2. Accordingly, many Gram Panchayats have expressed interest in undertaking tree plantation in their villages covering avenue plantation, afforestation of common property resources, bund plantation, tree based farming, agro forestry, silvipasture & tank bed afforestation. This demand, collected from various villages, has projected a total requirement of nearly **100 Crore plants** for the plantation to be done in 2011. However, currently such a plant material is not available. The plant material raised by horticulture or social forestry departments was already tied up with their regular departmental programmes viz. Working Plan, National Horticulture Mission etc. Gram Panchayats lacked expertise to raise nurseries for producing drought-resistant planting material and therefore this important aspect of MGNREGS could not be grounded on the required scale.

3. Commissioner Rural Development proposed that proposed to launch a concerted effort to produce 100 Crore plants for plantation in 2011, with the coordination of Social Forestry Department. He proposed that **4,000 MGNREGS Grameena Vanam Nurseries (MGVN)** may be started under MGNREGS with technical guidance of Forest Department, each catering to 4 to 5 villages. The species which are local and which are demanded by the people will be identified for raising in each Nursery.

4. Government after careful consideration of the proposal of Commissioner Rural Development, approve the proposal to take up 4,000 nurseries with technical support of Forest Department for meeting the requirements of tree plantation under MGNREGS-AP subject to the following:

- a) The location of the nurseries shall be at the sub-mandal level and as decided jointly by the concerned DFOs and the Project Director's DWMA.
- b) Each nursery shall raise @ 50,000 saplings for each Gram Panchayat tagged to it, over a period of three years. Each year, a minimum of 17,000 plants covering about 5 varieties for each Gram Panchayat would be raised.

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- c) Only land with irrigation facility shall be taken on lease for setting up the Nursery. Each nursery shall be maintained initially for a period of minimum period of three years.
- d) Running of the nursery shall be part of the shelf of works for that Gram Panchayat. The unskilled works relating to watering of the plants, bagging, soil turning shall be provided to disabled wage seekers of the Gram Panchayat where the nursery is located.
- e) The seedlings raised shall be used only for the works related to the Shelf of works of MGNREGS-AP, for plantation in the lands of SC/ST/SF/MF farmers or in community spaces.
- f) The forest department shall put in place effective supervision and technical guidance for maintaining each nursery.

5. The Forest Department shall utilise the existing templates in the MGNREGS - AP software for raising the nurseries, with suitable modifications, if warranted. The existing Departmental Computer Centres (DCC) of the Forest department shall be used for the generation of estimates, payment for wage & material, etc.

6. The District Collectors are requested to review the progress of the nurseries, every week, in the initial period with DFO and the Project Director. At State Level, in every month, there shall be a review meeting of all the DFOs on the progress of nurseries.

7. A copy of this order is available on the Internet and can be accessed at the address: <http://www.rd.ap.gov.in>.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

R.SUBRAHMANYAM
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (RD)

To
The Commissioner, Rural Development, Hyderabad
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Department, Aranya Bhawan, Hyd.
The Director, EGS, O/o the Commissioner, Rural Development, Hyderabad
The District Collectors and District Programme Coordinators of all 22 Districts
The Project Directors, DWMA and Addl. District Programme Coordinators of all Districts

Copy to:

The Principal Secretary to Chief Minister
The PS to Minister (RD & NREGP)
The PS to Principal Secretary to Govt. (RD), PR&RD Department
The PR & RD (General) Department
SF/SC.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER